

Lab Report Notes

- The title and full heading should be included on a title page or the first page of the report.
- Using the following subheadings in the body of your report

I. Introduction

- A. Purpose or question
- B. Brief summary of what you will be doing in your experiment
- C. Variables
 - Independent Variable: What you change
 - Dependent Variable: What you measure
 - Controls/Constants: What has to stay the same in order for the experiment to be valid

II. Background Research

- A. History and background of your topic
 - B. Science "big ideas" (see background research packet for examples)
 - C. Impact of your experiment on society
- *1-3 paragraphs, in your own words

III. Hypothesis

- A. This is an Educated Guess! Not only should you include the guess, but the information that the guess is based on.
- B. Your guess should be related to the purpose of the experiment
- C. " If..... then.....because" is a basic format you can use

IV. Materials

- A. Materials should be listed in sentence format or an actual list. Be specific!

V. Procedure

- A. Method statement can be in paragraph form or listed step by step. This should be as detailed as possible.
 - B. Include diagrams or pictures
- *Remember that anyone (parents, siblings, teachers, etc.) should be able to pick up your report and do your experiment.

VI. Data

- A. ALL your results should appear in this section and in this section only!
 - B. Tables and graphs should be included in this section.
 - C. Summarize or explain your data
- *Remember to label your illustrations and include your units of measurement (cm, ml, m, s, etc.)

VI. Conclusion

- R: Recap the experiment
- E: Explain the purpose of the experiment
- R: Results: What happened? Why did it happen? Was your hypothesis correct?
- U: Uncertainty: What are possible sources of error?
- N: New/Next: Explain any new information or new ideas and possible future experiments.